Harassment of SCs/STs in STC

2107. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any entry of SC/ST and general category staff of STC was banned in the office premises immediately on their transfer from Delhi;

(b) whether transfer orders were followed by caveat from courts;

(c) whether salary due to those staff has also not been paid to them as the same is stated to have been transferred;

(d) if so, whether such transfer has ever been effected in the history of STC;

(e) if not, whether it is vindictive revengeful act of Chairman, STC to silence the SC/ST complainants; and

(f) if so, what action Government propose to take in this matter and against the Chairman so that SCs/STs are not harassed/oppressed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) No, Sir. On transfer, the employee, after being relieved, is expected to report at his new place of posting immediately after availing the joining time. Since, thereafter, no official work is to be transacted by the employee in his earlier place of posting, the entry to the office premises is permitted by the competent authority on receiving his request. No such request has been denied by the Management of STC to any transferred employee.

(b) In view of apprehension that some employees may obtain *exparte* injunction against the transfer orders, the Management had obtained caveat from the appropriate court.

(c) Under the rules of State Trading Corporation of India Ltd., on being relieved from the present place of posting, Last Pay Certificate (LPC) is issued for drawing salary at his new place of posting. However, an employee is at liberty to seek an advance at his earlier place of posting. However, no such application was received by the Management in the recent past.

(d) Transfers are effected as per administrative need and in conformity with the relevant Rules of the State Trading Corporation of India Ltd.

(e) and (f) In view of the position stated in (a) to (d), the questions do not arise.

Patent of cow urine by US

2108. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that cow urine has been patented in United States;

(b) what are implications of patenting it in US as this is a normally used medicine in the remote Indian villages; and

(c) in what manner Government propose to help the poor villagers to overcome the negative implications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN SINGH): (a) No patent on cow urine *per se* has been granted. Patent number 6,410,059 granted on June 25, 2002 by the United States Patent and Trademark Office to the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (an autonomous organisation under the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Government of India) relates to a pharmaceutical composition comprising an antibiotic and cow urine distillate in an amount effective to enhance the anti-microbial effect of the antibiotic.

(b) and (c) The grant of this patent has no adverse implications on usage of cow urine for therapeutic purposes in India. Even otherwise, patents are granted under the sovereign prerogative of countries under their respective patent laws and have territorial effect only, that is, they are effective or valid in the country of grant.

FDI in specialised sectors

2109. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total FDI inflow in the country during the last three years, year-wise, sector-wise and country-wise;